Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method for the optical emission spectroscopy of a liquid ~~(301)~~ excited by a pulsed laser ~~(402)~~ focused on its surface, ~~characterized in that the~~comprising the step of sweeping a zone to be analyzed ~~(304) is swept~~ by a laminar gas flow ~~(309)~~ having sufficient velocity and cross sectional area to eliminate ~~the~~ residues of ~~the~~ a plasma suspended in the gas and resulting from a first ~~pulsed laser~~laser pulse, before ~~the~~ a next ~~pulsed~~ laser pulse takes place, so that the laminar gas flow creates a containment effect on the ~~free~~ surface of the liquid.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~wherein the velocity of the gas is determined according to at least one ~~of the following properties of the analyzed liquid~~: ~~its~~ a temperature of the analyzed liquid, ~~its~~ a viscosity of the analyzed liquid, ~~its~~ a flow rate of the analyzed liquid, ~~the~~ a turbulent or laminar nature of ~~its~~ a flow of the analyzed liquid.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with one of the claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that the~~wherein a cross section swept by the laminar gas flow is determined according to at least one of ~~the following properties~~: a rate of expansion of the plasma, a rate of recurrence of the laser pulses, an accuracy of the measurement.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the liquid is flowing in the zone to be analyzed.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the gas is led into the zone to be analyzed through a conduit ~~(313, 302)~~ surrounding ~~the~~ a conduit ~~(302)~~ of the analyzed liquid.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the laser beam is inclined in relation to ~~the~~ a plane formed by the surface of the liquid at an angle different from 90°.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the laser beam is inclined in relation to the plane formed by the surface of the liquid at an angle greater than 60°.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that the~~wherein a beam emitted by the liquid after excitation by the laser ~~beam~~ pulse is collected colinearly with the laser ~~beam~~pulse.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the gas is argon or helium.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ A device for the optical emission spectroscopy of a liquid excited by a pulsed laser beam focused on ~~the~~ a surface of ~~this~~ the liquid, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~comprising:

a laser ~~capable of generating~~configured to generate coherent light pulses of a power density of at least 1 Gw/cm^2,

means ~~capable of~~for generating a laminar jet of liquid to be analyzed over a length of at least one cm,

means ~~capable of~~for generating a laminar gas jet parallel to the surface of the liquid to be analyzed, and in contact with ~~it~~the surface of the liquid, eliminating ~~the~~ residues of ~~the~~ a plasma suspended in the gas and resulting from a first ~~pulsed laser~~laser pulse from the pulsed laser,

means ~~capable of~~for focusing the laser beam in ~~the~~ a zone to be analyzed on the surface of the liquid jet to be analyzed,

means ~~capable of~~for collecting ~~the~~ light resulting from ~~the~~ an interaction of the light pulses of the laser with the liquid jet to be analyzed,

a spectroscope ~~capable of operating~~configured to operate within ~~the~~ a range of frequencies at which are found ~~the~~ emission lines of the liquid to be analyzed, and being equipped so as to receive the interaction light collected by ~~the~~ a beam of optical fibers,

means ~~capable of~~for making the liquid to be analyzed circulate in the form of a jet, and

means ~~capable of~~for making the gas circulate in the form of a jet before flowing tangentially to the liquid to be analyzed.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ A device in accordance with claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~wherein:

-the means ~~capable of~~for collecting the emission light of the liquid to be analyzed is such that ~~this~~ the light is collected colinearly with the excitation laser beam,

~~and in that~~ the device further comprises an impermeable enclosure in which are found the liquid to be analyzed and the means ~~capable of~~for generating the laminar gas jet, and

the colinearity of the excitation laser beam and the direction of the collected light ~~making~~ make possible the use of only one port of the enclosure for the laser beam and the collected light.